



Benda Davis

August 28, 1941 - August 18, 2021

Benda Lee Davis (Brockway), 79, from Battle Lake, Minnesota, died on Wednesday, August 18th, 2021, at Essentia Health hospital in Fargo, North Dakota.

A celebration of life will be held at 11:00 AM on Monday, August 30th, 2021, at the Glendalough State Park amphitheater in Battle Lake, with pastors Cindy Lemke and Jim Stoneman officiating. People are welcome to arrive on Monday from 10:00 am until the start of the service. (*Note: No State Park Pass will be needed by attendees of this event.) This will be an outdoor service, and the family would like to encourage COVID awareness from all.

Benda was born in Helena, Montana, on August 28, 1941, to Benjamin (B.W.) and Leone (Kidd) Brockway. After multiple moves, the family settled in Fargo, ND, where she graduated in 1959. She attended NDSU for two years, where she met Gary Davis, at the insistence of their sisters, Sally and Sharon. They married on September 14, 1961, and moved to Minneapolis, where their three daughters were born. In 1969, they moved to Wadena, MN, when the Russ Davis Wholesale warehouse was built.

Benda was a strong advocate of education, learning, and literacy and was known to dive deeply into topics that interested her. She was endlessly curious and was known for asking questions. She received a B.A. in English in

1985 from Moorhead State University, tutored ESL (English as a second language), taught Sunday school at church, worked at the Wadena City Library, read voraciously, and especially enjoyed the morning paper.

Benda was an active community member, organizing and assisting with many organizations. Her favorites were the recycling program in Wadena, MN, which she and Sarah Yetter started in 1974. She also helped found Womanade, a local organization that helps support students in surrounding school districts. She was passionate about environmental and social issues, scuba diving, museums, and beautiful places. She was an amateur geologist, excellent knitter, snappy game player, and enjoyed a witty limerick. Benda was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and friend.

She is preceded in death by her husband Gary, her parents, sister Sharon Scherer and sister-in-law Sally Lehr. She was also preceded by her brothers-in-law, Jim Lehr and Robert Scherer.

She is survived by her family, including daughters, Katy Davis (Mark) Neitzke of New Richmond, WI, Amy Davis of Duluth, MN, and Darcy Davis of Makawao, HI; her grandchildren, Gary (Stacee) Rosier, Marissa Neitzke, Tori Neitzke, Jack Hecker, Isaiah Acia, Micah Acia, and three great-grandchildren - all whom she adored greatly.

So many more people were special to her, including her sister-in-law Linda Davis Rumery, adored nieces and nephews, and all her wonderful friends. Benda also had a special place in her life for her care team - Jamie, Aune, Valissa, Kate, Jese, and Mia.

In lieu of flowers, the family would prefer memorials to: Womanade Helping Hearts, P.O. Box 466, Perham, MN 56573, Wadena City Library Renovation Fund, 405 1st St. S.E., Little Falls, MN 56345, Glendalough Park Partners,

P.O. Box 901, Battle Lake, MN 56515, and Friends of Auwahi Forest
Restoration Project, P.O. Box 652 Makawao, HI 96768.

Previous Events

Gathering of Family & Friends

AUG 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Glendalough State Park
25287 Whitetail Ln
Battle Lake, MN 56515

Celebration of Life

AUG 30. 11:00 AM (CT)

Glendalough State Park
25287 Whitetail Ln
Battle Lake, MN 56515

Tribute Wall



“ Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Benda Davis



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - August 27, 2021 at 04:43 PM

DA

A beautiful tribute for a beautiful human. Benda's good, kind spirit will continue to radiate into universe ✨

Di Schiller Anderson - August 31, 2021 at 11:46 AM

BR

“ Hello, we are so sorry to learn of Benda's passing. Benda and Gary supported the New York Mills Regional Cultural Center for years, and we are so grateful for their sustaining membership support. Please accept our sincere condolences for your loss, and deep gratitude for the years of support of our organization and arts, culture, and community-building in our region. Warmest wishes to Benda's family.

Betsy Roder - August 17, 2022 at 03:53 PM

SM

“ Sue McDonald lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis



Sue McDonald - September 07, 2021 at 12:15 PM

AL

“ Angeline Longshore lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis



Angeline Longshore - August 31, 2021 at 02:22 AM

HO

“ Hoku lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis



Hoku - August 30, 2021 at 11:10 AM

GM

“ Gwen Macklem lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis



Gwen Macklem - August 30, 2021 at 09:12 AM

VI

“ *What a beautiful human being. I can tell you lived your life with love and brought lots of joy to the people around you. May you Rest In Peace and keep shining your light. Love and peace.*



Viri - August 29, 2021 at 02:36 AM

YF

“ *My fondest memories are of Grandma Benda at Haleakala Waldorf School where I taught and her grandsons' attended. Especially sweet were the times she would join Micah's second grade handwork class and offer knitting help to students. She was there for her own and all the other children. She was the epitome of graceful humility of a bygone era. Grateful to have known her and to call her daughter Darcy one of my closest friends. My deepest sympathies to her 'Ohana 🦋💙🦋*

Yvonne Marie Felix - August 28, 2021 at 02:59 AM

MN

“ *I met Benda when she & I started working for Girl Scouts & we were in training for our jobs at the same time. Although I didn't work there long, I enjoyed her so much and loved her enthusiasm and support. My condolences to her family. She was a very special woman. Maggie Nelson (previously Brainerd. Now Duluth)*

Maggie Nelson - August 27, 2021 at 08:39 PM



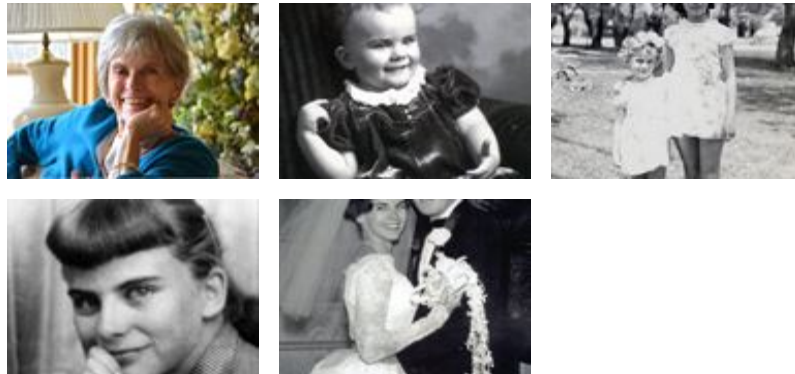
“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - August 27, 2021 at 05:54 PM



“ 49 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - August 27, 2021 at 02:35 PM

MM

“ Mike Mueller lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis



Mike Mueller - August 27, 2021 at 12:45 AM

JK

“ *My sympathy to the family.
I always enjoyed visiting with Benda.*



Jackie Sweere Kern - August 25, 2021 at 01:15 PM

ST

“ *Stacy lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Stacy - August 24, 2021 at 08:22 PM

ST

“ *My kindred spirit, my auntie, my soul sister, my book buddy, my lifelong hope and inspiration. Roots, trunk, crown and seeds, to be continued. May you now know all glory and all beauty and all peace. Love you so Bebe.*

Stacy - August 24, 2021 at 08:21 PM

DD

“ *Mom.*



Darcy Davis - August 24, 2021 at 07:08 PM

AB

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.
Gary & Benda were wonderful people.* ”



Angie, Heather & Phillip Boyd - August 24, 2021 at 05:25 PM

AP

“ *Arleen A. Paulson lit a candle in memory of
Benda Davis* ”



Arleen A. Paulson - August 24, 2021 at 04:41 PM

LR

“ *Benda was a Forever Friend. I loved her so much and will dearly
miss her.* ”

Linda Rumery - August 24, 2021 at 02:49 PM

LR

“ *Linda Rumery lit a candle in memory of
Benda Davis* ”



Linda Rumery - August 24, 2021 at 02:46 PM

JL

“ *Katy, Amy and Darcy,
I am so sorry for your loss. I regret that I never got to meet your
mom. She sounds like an amazing woman and brought up 3
wonderful women. I just want you all to know my heart goes out to
you. My thoughts and prayers will be with you in the months to
come as you find your way on coping with her gone from your life
but not your heart. Love to all of you.*

Jean Lamberson

Jean Lamberson - August 24, 2021 at 02:43 PM

TL

“ *Tom & Nancy Lehr lit a candle in memory of
Benda Davis*



Tom & Nancy Lehr - August 23, 2021 at 09:40 PM

GD

“ *George And Julie Deiss lit a candle in
memory of Benda Davis*



George and Julie Deiss - August 23, 2021 at 08:08 PM

BC

“ I'm sad to see that Benda passed away. The photo shown here is so perfect, that is exactly how I always picture her when something brings memories of her to mind; her beautiful smile and how her eyes smiled so bright too! She was one cool mom in my memories and such a beautiful person. My sincere condolences to all of you.
Beth (Bounds) Cottrell

Beth Cottrell - August 23, 2021 at 11:20 AM

SB

“ *Sharon Boline lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Sharon Boline - August 23, 2021 at 10:45 AM

BT

“ *Barb Tumberg lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Barb Tumberg - August 23, 2021 at 02:16 AM

BG

“ *Bob & Donna Grendahl lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Bob & Donna Grendahl - August 23, 2021 at 01:26 AM

CJ

“ *Cicely Johnson lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Cicely Johnson - August 22, 2021 at 09:53 PM



“ *Ruby Lynk lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Ruby Lynk - August 22, 2021 at 04:07 PM



“ *Marilyn Nervig lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Marilyn Nervig - August 22, 2021 at 12:48 PM

Judy Erdahl

“ *Judy Erdahl lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Judy Erdahl - August 22, 2021 at 09:09 AM

PW

“ *Phyllis Wilkening lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Phyllis Wilkening - August 21, 2021 at 08:16 PM

JJ

“ *Jon & Patty Johnson lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Jon & Patty Johnson - August 21, 2021 at 05:54 PM

MS

“ *Mike And Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of Benda Davis*



Mike and Lea Snyder - August 21, 2021 at 04:24 PM